

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: van der Heijden Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/518,661 Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Confirmation No: 7862 Docket: 903-125 PCT/US
Filed: December 17, 2004 Dated: July 1, 2005
For: DISPENSING UNIT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,
postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:*

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

on July 1, 2005.

Signed: K. Tillman/ K. Tillman

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement for the above-identified application in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97, 1.98. The present Information Disclosure Statement is hereby requested to be entered in the record of the above-identified application by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The USPTO is further requested to consider each of the documents listed on the attached FORM PTO-1449, and to indicate such consideration by initialing each citation thereon.

The attached FORM PTO-1449 identifies "Foreign Patent Documents" and "Other Documents", copies of which are attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Copies of the U.S. Patents identified on the FORM PTO-1449 are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii); "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S.

Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003",
USPTO, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Pre-OG Notice, Stephen G. Kunin,
Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, July 11, 2003.

The U.S. and Foreign Patent Documents identified on the enclosed FORM PTO-1449 were cited in a PCT International Search Report, which is identified as an "Other Document" on the FORM PTO-1449. The PCT International Search Report is for an international application upon which the above-identified application claims priority. Accordingly, the PCT International Search Report is for an international application of which the above-identified application is a counterpart. MPEP § 609(III)(B)(5), p. 600-135 (Rev. 2, May 2004).

The attached FORM PTO-1449 identifies "Foreign Patent Documents", EP 0499538 and NL 1004332, which are not in the English language. The PCT International Search Report identified on the attached FORM PTO-1449 contains respective purported degrees of relevance of EP 0499538 and NL 1004332, refers to specific sections thereof which are purportedly relevant, and identifies specific claims of the international application¹ to which EP 0499538 and NL 1004332 are purportedly relevant. This provides a concise explanation of the relevance of EP 0499538 and NL 1004332. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), MPEP § 609(III)(A)(3), p. 600-129 (Rev. 2, May 2004). Additionally, NL 1004332 and U.S. Patent No. 5,918,771 appear to be related (U.S. Patent No. 5,918,771, at p. 1, identifies as "Foreign Application Priority Data, Jan.

¹ upon which the above-identified application claims priority.

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31, 1996 [NL] Netherlands 1002211,"; NL 1004332, at p. 1, identifies "Voorrang:
31.01.96 NL 1002211").

An Office action on the merits for the above-identified application is believed to have not yet been issued by the USPTO. Therefore, it is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office action on the merits for the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is believed to be required for the present Information Disclosure Statement to be entered in the record of the above-identified application and considered by the USPTO. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If, however, such a fee is required, the USPTO is hereby requested and authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0776.

The USPTO is requested to direct any questions or comments relating to the above-identified application to Applicant's attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | ATTY. DOCKET NO. 903-125 PCT/US | SERIAL NO. 10/518,661 |
| | APPLICANT Van Der Heijden | CONFIRMATION NO. 7862 |
| | FILING DATE December 17, 2004 | GROUP Unassigned |

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| | | 3,194,447 | 7/13/65 | Brown | | | |
| | | 4,212,332 | 7/15/80 | Kutik et al. | | | |
| | | 4,875,604 | 10/24/89 | Czech | | | |
| | | 5,224,627 | 7/06/93 | Weag | | | |
| | | 5,237,797 | 8/24/93 | Varlet | | | |
| | | 5,351,862 | 10/04/94 | Weag | | | |
| | | 5,918,771 | 7/06/99 | van der Heijden | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | 0499538 A1 | 08/19/92 | EP | | | | X |
| | | 93/04940 | 03/18/93 | WO (PCT) | | | | |
| | | 99/25627 | 05/27/99 | WO (PCT) | | | | |
| | | 1004332 | 12/10/97 | NL | | | | X |
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EXAMINER

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | | | PCT International Search Report for International application no. PCT/NL03/00489 (4 pages) and English translation (5 pages). |
| | | | PCT International Preliminary Examination Report for International application no. PCT/NL03/00489 (15 pages). |
| | | | PCT Written Opinion for International application no. PCT/NL03/00489 (7 pages). |

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